

CIA Has 'New Sense Of National Purpose,' Deputy Director Says

CIA Deputy Director Frank C. Carlucci, in his first public address since coming to the agency, said he feels a "changing mood" toward CIA in the public, the press and Congress, and that it is gaining "a new sense of national purpose." He also told a luncheon meeting of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers at Fort Myer, Va., on 17 May that there are a number of "important changes" being made at CIA, including more stress on relating signal intelligence to photographic imagery, and increasing use of automatic data processing to help analysts cope with the increasing flow of raw information.



Carlucci, who had been U.S. Ambassador to Portugal before assuming responsibility for the day-to-day operations of CIA under Director Adm. Stansfield Turner, told an audience of several hundred that CIA is "very vibrant, very much alive and very much looking toward the future. You may say I'm absolutely crazy," but "I come at this agency with a fundamentally optimistic outlook which I've always had."

At State Department posts in Africa, as director of the Office of Economic Opportunity and in other positions, Carlucci said he had faced dire predictions, but that "none of those things came to pass. There's a much greater chance they will come to pass if that's all we dwell on."

Today, he said, intelligence agencies "find greater use for the end product; there is greater access to high levels" of the Administration and Congress; "there is a greater opportunity to build public support, and there is an unparalleled opportunity to work with Congress."

He admitted there are four major problems facing CIA, but also said there are bright spots.

'Unending Compromise'

"The first and most serious" is "what seems to be the unending compromise of sources and methods." He noted that previously in testimony to the Senate Intelligence Committee, former CIA chief Richard Helms said the agency is "hemorrhaging" with leaks. "Indeed," said Carlucci, "that's the sensation you sometimes get. If you can't protect sources or methods, you can't live. I've seen revelations where people's lives have literally been put in danger. To this day, we can't tell whether they're alive or dead."

But "the other side of that coin" is that "there's not a lot that's come out, particularly given the opportunity for financial gain. Leaks do not come from those that work in the community. There's less and less from the Hill, and none from retired officers. They come from officers who feel ill-equipped or have personal grievances." Some have said, Carlucci noted, that "Moral dilemmas often come on the heels of personal grievances."

"I feel the answer isn't solely in legislation," but in creating an "atmosphere where there is a respect for professionalism. . . and high standards. I have an idea some of these revelations are not falling on quite as fertile ground as they fell on before."

A second problem is stories in the press about internal CIA affairs — for instance, a study by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that working conditions at headquarters in Langley, Va., are not up to par. But, "If we're being criticized by OSHA, we're generating a lot of sympathy around the country." Similarly, a recent newspaper story about CIA want ads resulted in a jump in overall applications.

"We are in the public eye," but "the people (want) fair play. I think they're becoming increasingly supportive." They are asking "who's worrying about the other side (Soviet intelligence services)?" Carlucci said Director Turner has "talked of an open policy," but stressed that "it's not giving away classified information, but taking information that can be declassified and making it part of the public dialogue" so the public "can see the very high quality" of CIA work. So far, this policy has not given away "a source or a method."

A third major problem is "the role of Congress. There have been a lot of

sensational hearings, and there will probably be some more. . . But Congress has gradually learned more about (the intelligence community)." It now has "separate committees" for intelligence matters and there are "very few leaks (today), if any, out of those committees."

"Sure," said Carlucci, "we still have to define the difference between oversight and micromanagement. But we are in a dialogue where we are creating mutual confidence. We're closer to a national consensus that will enable a return to professionalism."

The fourth problem is "charter legislation," specifically Senate Bill S. 2525, which is aimed at coming up with new ways for CIA to operate. It "raises a lot of questions and problems," but "you have to look at the legislative process: a bill introduced is not a bill that is passed." It must come up for debate, and "we will speak up." Furthermore, "there are signs we will gain significant support. . . It's a process of compromise. . . After you do it in one house (of Congress), you do it in the other house, . . . and it's all taking place" in a better atmosphere for CIA.

Carlucci noted that "the traditionalists say we oughtn't to have any legislation. Indeed, this is a difficult and challenging task. But first, we have passed the point of no return. . . and second, given the problems and the confidence issues raised. . . about the intelligence community. . . the best way to handle it is to get an agreed-upon charter and agreed-upon standards, where they (Congress) agree and we go ahead. . ."

Overall, said Carlucci, "I don't mean to leave you with the impression that all is sweetness and light. I don't know how many more skeletons will be dragged out of the closet." CIA, Carlucci said, has put in "109 man-years of effort on 16,000 requests under the Freedom of Information Act. I once told Congress that if the KGB (Soviet Committee for State Security) put in a request (under FOI), we would have ten days to respond, and if we turned their request down, they would have 20 days to appeal."

But in general, "I sense a changing mood and a more favorable climate in which to operate."

'A Very Different Set Of Skills'

Along with the new climate, "the intelligence product has changed. Today's intelligence (comes from) an integrated approach. . . You can't see Ethiopia as an isolated country," for instance. It must be studied in relation to "the Sudan, Kenya, Angola, and its impact on the Middle East."

Issues, such as strategic arms limitation and nuclear proliferation, are now being viewed in the same way. A "cross-cutting" of intelligence is used.

And, said Carlucci, "new areas" are being covered. Drugs "are becoming an increasingly important part of the agency's activities;" terrorism is being looked at more closely; theories of economics are being studied with new emphasis — Soviet strategic developments are now evaluated "in the light of economic prospects;" and national resources, including oil, are getting more attention from CIA.

"So we have a very different set of skills" that in the past. "It's why we have a dual-headed system" of administration that covers both the CIA and the intelligence community as a whole. Director Turner now "has some budget clout and believe me, that is teeth."

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AFIO SUPPORTS BELL ON WITHHOLDING INFORMANT'S IDENTITIES

The following is a copy of a Mailgram sent to Attorney General Griffin Bell lauding his refusal, under the threat of contempt of court charges, to release the names of former FBI informants in the civil suit brought by the Socialist Workers' Party:

Recently the Association of Former Intelligence Officers was critical of your decision to proceed with the indictments of three former high ranking FBI officials. We are still hopeful that those indictments will be withdrawn. It is now our Association's turn to commend you for your strong stand on the release of the names of eighteen informants sought by the Socialist Workers' Party. We applaud your personal courage in taking that position. It evinces your clear understanding of the great harm which could befall intelligence and law enforcement agencies if they could not guarantee the confidentiality of sources. We fervently hope that the courts will have the wisdom to uphold the essentiality of that guarantee.

Richard G. Stilwell, General, USA Ret., President



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AFIO VOICES ALARM AT PROPOSED LEGISLATION

AFIO President Richard Stilwell told the Senate Select Committee on June 15 in Washington that S. 2525 — the draft proposal for restructuring the intelligence community — contains crippling restrictions which will seriously diminish future intelligence effectiveness. "As written," Stilwell said, "the bill is virtually a decision to stop all clandestine operations, not only positive collection and counter-intelligence but also covert action." Referring to numerous presidential approvals of certain clandestine activities required by the bill, Stilwell said that the procedures and personal approval by the President of certain activities is a "mountain of red tape" and "an intolerable burden on the highest levels of government."

John S. Warner, AFIO Legal Advisor, accompanied the AFIO president during the morning-long session chaired by Senator Birch Bayh (D-Ind.). Mr. Warner prepared the lengthy written statement delivered to the Committee and which served as the basis for Stilwell's oral testimony, and answered legal questions posed by the Senators. A number of Washington-area members of AFIO attended the hearings which were held in the Dirksen Office Building.

Senator Walter D. Huddleston, (D-Ky.), explained that the draft version of S. 2525 was written and submitted for public consideration in order that comments could be solicited from those concerned with the final version, which will probably not be voted on by the full Senate this year. Various critics of intelligence — including Morton Halperin, director of the Center for National Security Studies who was present during the June 15 testimony — have described S. 2525 as insufficiently restrictive, claiming that it contains loopholes which will allow repetition of past abuses. On the other hand, a number of intelligence establishment leaders, including three former CIA Directors, have labeled the bill as unnecessarily restrictive. Stilwell, joined the latter group in assailing the proposed bill as "an overreaction to a few abuses of the past", in the face of a growing Soviet threat.

S. 2525 is known formally as the "National Intelligence Reorganization and Reform Act of 1978." Stilwell told the Committee that AFIO believes the bill is mislabeled: "The word 'reform,'" he stated, "has an unfortunate connotation which is an affront to the thousands of dedicated employees of the intelligence community who were never aware of, (and never) participated in, the very few transgressions which led to the many sensational charges of the past few years."

In his statement, the AFIO President dealt with all aspects of the proposed legislation which were considered to cause difficulties for the efficient functioning of intelligence. As an example, there are some 67 different provisions requiring reports by intelligence agencies to the Congress. Space is too brief to list all the issues but we urge members to write for their copy of this statement. After reading it, make your views known in your community and to your Congressmen and Senators.

Following the testimony of the AFIO president Senator Barry Goldwater (R-Az.), supported the positions defended by Stilwell and Warner. "The American people have no conception of intelligence," the Senator said. Decrying unnecessary revelations and leaks concerning intelligence, the Senator stated that he knew of "one death" of an American intelligence officer following irresponsible disclosure.

In addition to the Senate appearance AFIO submitted on 26 June its strong opposition to H.R. 7308 to the House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties and the Administration of Justice. The Subcommittee is now holding hearings on the act entitled "Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978." (See page 8).

Legal Advisor Warner prepared the comprehensive study of the Senate's S. 2525 in collaboration with three AFIO members with extensive legal and Congressional experience: Messrs. John M. Maury, Lawrence R. Houston and Walter L. Pforzheimer.

(Copies of the AFIO statement and the complete letter on H.R. 7308 are being distributed to members of the Board of Directors and Chapter Executives. Members who wish copies may obtain them by sending \$1.50 to cover mailing and printing costs to AFIO national headquarters).

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